

V-Mail Service provides the most expeditious dispatch and reduces the weight of mail to and from personnel of our Armed Forces outside the continental United States. When addressed to points where micro-film equipment is operated, a miniature photographic negative of the message will be made and sent by the most expeditious transportation available for reproduction and delivery. The original message will be destroyed after the reproduction has been delivered. Messages addressed to or from points where micro-film equipment is not operated will be transmitted in their original form by the most expeditious means available.

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INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message plainly on the other side within marginal lines.
- (2) PRINT the name and address in the two panels provided. Addresses to members of the Armed Forces should include rank or rating of the addressee, unit to which attached, and APO or Naval address.
- (3) Fold, seal, and deposit in any post office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) Enclousures must not be placed in this envelope and a separate V-Mail letter must be sent if you desire to write more than one sheet.
- (5) V-Mail letters may be sent free of postage by members of the Armed Forces. When sent by others postage must be prepaid at domestic rates (3c ordinary mail, 6c if air mail is desired).

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 17

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Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Looes

5418-1344 SF, N.W.
Washington D.C.

C.S.A.

Franklin A.C.

MAIL

A.P.O. 520 9% Telephones N.Y.
482 548, 17th Floor, S.Y.
A.A.Tank W.L. Looes, O-667577



Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418-13th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Lt. Frank W. Loops, O-667827
(Sender's name)

432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
(Sender's address)

A.P.O. 520, Postmaster NYC.

September 9, 1943
(Date)

Saying

Hello folks,

Had to skip a day or so. Don't remember when last I wrote you, but don't guess it makes much difference. - Especially in view of the latest news-broadcasts about Italy. - The more that surrender - the quicker we get home, is the way I see it! It was funny. I happen to have the opportunity of being near some Italian Prisoners of War when they heard Italy had surrendered. - It was too funny to watch them. - They just about went wild, but who could blame them?

Had a trip yesterday & day before. - We turned our plane into a transport for the day so had the opportunity of spending the night and part of the day in a city in Sicily. It was the first time I had ever landed there. Course, I had made numerous trips over on different type missions! - It was quite a thrill and one I really appreciated. - We got to see everything first hand - and a chance to meet people. - We stayed in a hotel - complete with beds & sheets - and believe it or not, not a one of the three of us who stayed there slept worth a dam! - It had been since March since I had had springs, mattress & sheets. - Guess the comforts of civilization will be as hard to get used to as the hardships were. What a life! While there, I met a Lt. Col. on tour from Wash. - He knew Col. Ames - lives in Arlington - and said he would call you all when he gets back to D.C. - I also have his telephone # and we are to have a chunk on him when I hit D.C. again!

Bye for now - more just time! - Love, Frank

V---MAIL

P.S. Forget to tell you - I also say hello to the fellows who was in my flying class at G.W. and Congressional! - It's getting peachy there!